

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium storing machine-readable instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the following operations:

enable a sender to input a message;

enable the sender to append an attachment to the message;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of a plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

enable a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of prospective attachments; and

transmit the message over a network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, regardless of whether the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with or without the attachment, and

wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

7-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to transmit electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients comprising:

a port for coupling the apparatus to a network; and

a processor;

wherein the processor is configured to:

enable means for a sender to append an attachment to an electronic mail message;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message without the attachment;

enable means for a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of prospective attachments; and

enable means to transmit the electronic mail message over the network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient, whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, regardless of whether the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with or without the attachment, and

wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

18-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients, comprising:

inputting a message;

appending an attachment to the message;

designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

enabling a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of prospective attachments; and

transmitting the message over a network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient, whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, regardless of whether the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with or without the attachment, and

wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

24-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A program-controlled apparatus operable to communicate via e-mail with one or more recipient computers, the apparatus configured to allow a user of the apparatus to perform the following operations:

input a message;

append an attachment to the message;

designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

enable a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to prospective receipt of attachments; and

transmit the message over a network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient, whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, regardless of whether the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with or without the attachment, and

wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

30-39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 6 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

41. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 40 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to prevent receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

42. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

43. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 41 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the processor is configured to enable means for the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 44 wherein the processor is configured to prevent receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45 wherein the processor is configured to enable means for the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45 wherein the processor is configured to enable means for the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 including enabling the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48 including preventing receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 including enabling the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 including enabling the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.

52. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium storing machine-readable instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the following operations:

enable a sender to input a message;

enable the sender to append an attachment to the message;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of a plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

enable a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of prospective attachments; and

transmit the message over a network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, even though the sender designated that recipient to receive the message with the attachment, and

wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

53. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 52 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

54. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 53 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to prevent receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

55. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 54 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

56. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 54 including instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.

57. (Currently Amended) An apparatus to transmit electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients comprising:

a port for coupling the apparatus to a network; and

a processor;

wherein the processor is configured to:

enable means for a sender to append an attachment to an electronic mail message;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message without the attachment;

enable means for a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of prospective attachments; and enable means to transmit the electronic mail message over the network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient, whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, even though the sender designated that recipient to receive the message with the attachment, and wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the processor is configured to enable means for the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 58 wherein the processor is configured to prevent receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

60. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein the processor is configured to enable means for the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein the processor is configured to enable means for the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.

62. (Currently Amended) A method for transmitting electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients, comprising:



inputting a message;  
appending an attachment to the message;  
designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;  
designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;  
enabling a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of prospective attachments; and  
transmitting the message over a network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient, whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, even though the sender designated that recipient to receive the message with the attachment, and  
wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62 including enabling the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 63 including preventing receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64 including enabling the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64 including enabling the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.

67. (Currently Amended) A program-controlled apparatus operable to communicate via e-mail with one or more recipient computers, the apparatus configured to allow a user of the apparatus to perform the following operations:

- input a message;
- append an attachment to the message;
- designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;
- designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;
- enable a recipient to create and edit a reception profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to prospective receipt of attachments; and
- transmit the message over a network from the sender to the plurality of recipients, wherein the message is transmitted from the sender without the attachment to any recipient, whose reception profile specifies not to receive an attachment, even though the sender designated that recipient to receive the message with the attachment, and  
wherein if the sender designated the recipient to receive the message with the attachment, the message is transmitted from the sender with the attachment to any recipient whose reception profile specifies to receive an attachment.

68. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the apparatus is configured to allow a user of the apparatus to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies information about prospective attachments that the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

69. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the apparatus is configured to prevent receipt by the recipient of prospective attachments that the recipient's profile indicates the recipient is unable, or does not wish, to receive.

70. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein the apparatus is configured to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments larger than a specified size.

71. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein the apparatus is configured to enable the recipient to create and edit a profile that specifies the recipient is not to receive attachments during a particular time frame.